STEWARTS OF BEECHWOOD
FAMILY HISTORY
1897

See page 10.

Family History

of the

Stewarts of Beechwood.

1897.

"WEEP NOT FOR ME."

"When the spark of life is waning,
Weep not for me;
When the languid eye is streaming,
Weep not for me;
When the feeble pulse is ceasing;
Start not at its swift decreasing,
'Tis the fettered soul releasing,
Weep not for me.

When the pangs of death assail me,
Weep not for me;
Christ is mine, he cannot fail me,
Weep not for me;
Yes, though sin and doubt endeavor,
From his love my soul to sever,
Jesus is strength forever;
Weep not for me.

In coelo quies.

* SARAH CATHARINE STEWART. *

SARAH CATHARINE STEWART intermarried with Dr. Henry Shaw Etheridge, on the 29th day of April, 1868, and they have one child, Amie Catharine Etheridge, surviving, born on the 29th day of August, 1875, who is a member of Portsmouth Chapter No. 30, Daughters of the Confederacy. Dr. Etheridge was a gallant Confederate soldier, having served through the war as Sergeant of Company "A" and Hospital Steward of the 61st Va. Infantry Regt. surrendering at Appomattox. Since the close of the war he has been a successful practitioner and a very popular citizen, who has filled several important political trusts and was Democratic Nominee for Clerk of the County Court in 1893.

Church, Norfolk, which she joined the 3rd Sunday in May 1876. The following letter from a relative on her death, gives the true estimate of her character.

"To my dear cousin Catharine, and to every member of her bereaved and afflicted family, I offer my deep sympathy, mingled with tears. In doing this, I do not expect to comfort or console, but simply to condole, for none but the dear Father, can heal such deep wounds as yours and even then the scars will remain a long time. Yet sad and torn as your hearts are, it is a peaceful reflection, and a healing balm, to remember how well prepared dear Nannie was to answer to the Father's call, to "come, ye good and faithful." Piety, charity, endurance, filial obedience, chastity, gentleness, loving kindness, self-sacrifice, devotion to duty, unselfishness and patience in long suffering, are virtues all her own. For such as these, Heaven is waiting; and we know, with her burden of treasures, great gladness and joy will be hers, when she enters in at the Golden Gate, So we, who are sorrowing, must heed and obey the comforting angel whispering, "Peace, be still."

"To you, dear cousin Catharine, in your ripe years, to Cattie in your suffering and patient struggle with pain, to Amy, the beloved household pet, to loving brothers, to the true and faithful physician, and to all, all bereaved ones, I would say, I conjure you to wipe away your tears, bind up your sore hearts with God's promises, when He says "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God."

Hoping, my loved ones, that these words of deep sympathy out of my own sorrowing heart, may, with God's blessing, bring to you that "peace which passeth all understanding," I am your affectionate and much attached cousin.

B. W. F.———

She left a written request that her funeral be preached from the text — part of the 15th verse — 13th chapter of Job "Though He slay me yet will I trust in Him," and that the following hymn be used.

Nannie Garrett Stewart.

1896.

amination. He is a member of the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution. His military record is three years service in the National Guard of the District of Columbia as a private. He intermarried with Mary Isabella Tabb, daughter of Dr. Robert B. Tabb of Norfolk County, on the 6th day of December, 1887, and they have two daughters, Elizabeth Tabb Stewart, born March 6th, 1890 and Catharine Maud Stewart, born November 23rd, 1891.

* Robert Edward Bruce Stewart. *

Robert Edward Bruce Stewart was educated at the common schools, Suffolk Military Academy and Virginia Military Institute. After leaving school he engaged in farming on his mother's farm at Beechwood. At an early age he took quite an active part in politics and was a member of the Democratic Executive Committee for several years ; was elected to the Legislature in November 1891, and resigned July 1893, having been appointed by the Secretary of the Navy, Clerk to the Captain of the Norfolk Navy Yard. He was appointed by the Governor on April 25th, 1892, a member of the Auxiliary Board of World's Fair Managers of Virginia from the 2nd Congressional District. He is a member of the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. He intermarried with Lucy Lee West on the 5th of June, 1895, and they have one child, Nannie Elizabeth Stewart, born May 17th, 1896.

Mrs. Stewart's father, Leroy M. West, was a gallant Confederate Soldier, surrendered at Appomattox. He married Marion Hunter, daughter of Jacob Hunter who was a son of Josiah Wilson Hunter, who was son of Jacob Hunter, who was a member of the Princess Anne County Committee of Safety, 1775, in the Revolutionary War. [*See James' Antiquary, No.* 1, *part* 2.

* Nannie Garrett Stewart. *

Nannie Garrett Stewart never married and lived with her mother at Beechwood. She was an invalid the last ten years of her life and often her suffering was intense. She was a noble, self-sacrificing Christian, was a member of Disciples

city of Portsmouth, which resulted in favor of the county, enabling the Supervisers to relieve the county citizens of the levy for one year. He is now (1903) President of the Norfolk Portsmouth Bar Association

He was Portsmouth City Editor of the *Norfolk Landmark* from its establishment by James Barron Hope, until April 1st, 1876. He was editor of the *Daily Times* of Portsmouth, Va. for two years, resigning March 6th, 1880.

He has been closely identified with the street railways, having been vice-president and director of the Portsmouth Street Railway, was president and director of the Port-Norfolk Electric Railway from its organization until April 1897, when he resigned. The location of a town on the Glebe farm, *Port-Norfolk*, was his conception. He is a member of the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution; a member and Past Commander of Stonewall Camp Confederate Veterans, Portsmouth, Va.; Vestryman of Trinity P. E. Church, Portsmouth Parish and member of the Board of Trustees of Portsmouth Orphan Asylum.

❋

❋ CHARLES ALEXANDER STEWART. ❋

CHARLES ALEXANDER STEWART was educated at the common schools, William R. Galt's School, Norfolk, Va. and Eaton and Burnett's Business College, Baltimore, Md. In 1878 he printed and published a small weekly paper at Wallaceton, afterwards on the reportorial staff of "Portsmouth Daily Times" as local editor, resigned in fall of 1879 to take management of Beechwood Farm. Was a delegate to the Democratic Congressional Convention at Virginia Beach in September, 1884 and the Gubernatorial Convention at Richmond in 1885 which nominated Fitzhugh Lee.

September 1st, 1886, was appointed to a $900 clerkship in the U. S. Treasury Department, and assigned to the office of the Comptroller of the Currency, having passed successfully an examination before the U. S. Civil Service Commission in March of that year. Was promoted to class 1, September 17, 1887, to class 2, December 20th, 1888, to class 3, March 1st, 1889, and February 20th, 1893 was promoted to class 4, the highest at that time under Civil Service Rules, the result of a competitive ex-

gagement at Rappahannock R. R. Bridge, November 7th, 1862; at Fredericksburg, December 11th, 12th and 13th, 1862; at McCarty's Farm or Chancellorsville, wounded May 1st, 1863; at Chancellorsville, May 2nd and 3rd, 1863; at Gettysburg, July 2nd and 3rd, 1863; at Hagerstown, commanding brigade picket line, July 6th to 11th, 1863; at Culpeper or Brandy Station, August 1st, 1863; at Mine Run, December 2nd, 1863; at Wilderness, May 6th, 1864; at Shady Grove, May 8th, 1864; at Spottsilvania C. H., wounded, May 12th, 1864, promoted to Lieutenant Colonel; at North Anna River, commanding regiment, May 21st to 23rd, 1864; at Hanover C. H., commanding regiment, May 28th and 29th, 1864; at Atlee's Station, commanding regiment June 1st, 1864; at Cold Harbor, commanding regiment, June 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 1864; at Turkey Ridge, commanding regiment, skirmishing, June 4th to 13th, 1864; at Frazier's Farm, commanding regiment, skirmish, June 13th, 1864; at Wilcox Farm, (Petersburg) commanding regiment, June 22nd, 1864; at Gurley House, commanding regiment, June 23rd, 1864; at Reams Station, commanding regiment, June 27th, 1864; at Crater, commanding regiment, July 30th, 1864; at Davis Farm, Petersburg & W. R. R., August 19th, 1864; at Reams Station, commanding regiment, August 25th, 1864; at Burgess Mill; commanding regiment, October 29th, 1864; at Hicksford, commanding regiment, December 9th and 10th, 1864; at Hatcher's Run, commanding regiment, February 6th, 1865; at Petersburg evacuation, (Bermuda hundred line), April 1st, 1865; at Amelia C. H., April 5th, 1865; at Cumberland Church, commanding Division Picket Line, April 7th, 1865 and surrendered at Appomattox C. H., April 8th, 9th and 10th, 1865 and parolled.

After the war he engaged in farming on his father's farm, who died soon after his return from the Confederate service, until 1870, when he removed to Portsmouth, studied law and was licensed to practice on October 3rd, 1871, where he has since resided and practiced law. He was elected Attorney for the Commonwealth on the 27th of May, 1875 and 22nd of May, 1879, serving two terms of four years each for the County of Norfolk. One of the noted cases of his term was the settlement of the property division between the county of Norfolk and the

Lieut. Col. William H. Stewart.

1862.

M. A. PH. D.

* WILLIAM HENRY STEWART. *

WILLIAM HENRY STEWART, son of William Charles Stewart and Catharine Matilda Stewart, intermarried with Annie Wright Stubbs of Portsmouth, Va., daughter of John S. Stubbs and Stella L. H. nee Armistead, on the 30th day of October, 1873. She was born on the 30th day of July 1848, and died on the 28th day of November, 1883. They had one child, Robert Armistead Stewart, who was born on Friday the 9th day of March, 1877; and William H. Stewart again intermarried with Sallie Watson Magruder of Albemarle Co., Va., on the 20th day of September, 1888. Her father was Col. Benjamin H. Magruder of Albemarle and mother Maria Louisa Minor daughter of Dr. James Minor (and Polly Watson,) who was the son of Garrett Minor, of Sunning Hill, Louisa Co., Va. and Mary Overton, nee Terrill. He was a member of the Committee of Safety for that county in 1775 (*William and Mary Quarterly*, Oct. 1896, page 106.

William H. Stewart was educated at common and private schools of Norfolk County, at Union Male Academy of Hertford County in North Carolina, and at University of Virginia. He was an ardent Secessionist and promptly responded to the call of his native state for troops to repel the Northern Army of Invasion He was Second Lieutenant of the Wise Light Dragoons, State Volunteers, called out April 22nd, 1861, and encamped at Denby's Church in Norfolk County to picket the beach with Doyle's Cavalry from Ocean View to Sewell's Point. After a few weeks active service, it having insufficient numbers to muster into the Confederate service, it was disbanded, and the Jackson Greys were recruited and mustered into the Confederate Army, July 12th, 1861. First service was at Fort Nelson, heavy artillery, Portsmouth, Va.; from thence to rifled gun battery at Sewell's Point, Norfolk Co., Va.

Captain William H Stewart, Jackson Greys, commanding this battery, was engaged March 8th, 1862, with U. S. Frigate "Minnesota" and with U. S. Fleet bombarding Sewell's Point, May 8th, 1862.

On the evacuation of Norfolk, he was ordered to Petersburg, company assigned to 61st Va. Regiment, Infantry, as company "A" and was elected major of this regiment. He was in the en-

Charles Stewart died in February 1801. His children were William, born August 11, 1780; Charles, born August 30th, 1782; Joseph, born May 20th, 1784; Ann, born July 12th, 1786; Alexander, born March 8th, 1788, and John, born December 9th 1791. Joseph, Ann and John died in infancy.

* ALEXANDER STEWART *

ALEXANDER STEWART, his son, intermarried with Lauretta Wallace on — day of — 1807, and died on the — day of — 1813. His widow Lauretta was afterwards twice married. She was born March 3rd, 1786, and died on the 6th day of June 1857. They had three children Joseph, born in 1808, William Charles, born Sept. 21, 1810 and Caroline Frances, born Oct. 17, 1812. Minute Book No 24, page 191:

"At a Court held for Norfolk County on the 15th day of September 1834. The Court doth certify upon satisfactory evidence, that William Charles Stewart and Caroline Frances Stewart are the children and sole heirs at law of the late Alexander Stewart, who was a son of the late Charles Stewart, an Ensign in the Virginia State line during the war of the Revolution." Alexander Stewart was a soldier of the war of 1812, and contracted a cold in the service from which he died.

* WILLIAM CHARLES STEWART. *

WILLIAM CHARLES STEWART was a Lieutenant of State Volunteers during the time of the Mexican War; but his command was not called into service. He was born Sept. 21, 1810, and married Catharine Matilda Garrett Sept. 13th 1837. He was a quiet farmer and died on his farm "Beechwood," at the intersection of the Dismal Swamp and Northwest Canals, in St. Brides Parish, Norfolk County, Va., on the 29th day of June, 1865, leaving widow, three sons and two daughters, whose names are elsewhere recorded, He was imprisoned during the Confederate war at Old Point, by General B. F. Butler, for his loyalty to the South.

"At Court held for Norfolk County the 15th day of February, 1813, Jesse Nicholson came into Court and made oath that Charles Stewart, formerly of this county, was an Ensign in the 15th Virginia Regiment in the Revolutionary War; that he served for upwards of three years, and how much longer he does not know, and he thinks, was afterwards advanced to a Lieutenant, which is ordered to be certified, and it is also certified by the Court, William Stewart, Charles Stewart and Alexander Stewart, are the only children and heirs at law of the said Charles Stewart, who is dead."

On the 19th day of July, 1790, Charles Stewart was recommended to the Lieutenant-Governor by the Court of Justices of Norfolk County as a proper person to be Captain in the militia of this county; was duly appointed and qualified by taking the oath of fidelity to the Commonwealth and the United States.

The court records show a number of real estate transactions in St. Brides Parish of Norfolk County; also the Land Office in Richmond shows land patents issued by Lieutenant-Governor Beverly Randolph to William Wilson, Jr., and Charles Stewart; and the Land Tax Book for St. Brides Parish for 1797 in the Circuit Court Clerk's office of Norfolk County shows Charles Stewart assessed with real estate as follows:

Acres.	£'s.	Shillings.	Pence.
125	95	1	3
22	10	14	6
42½	35	15	0
97½	5	10	0
15	97	10	11
200	29	5	0
40	--	--	--
542	273	16	8

Paternal Ancestors.

CHARLES STEWART.

CHARLES STEWART, supposed to have been born about 1730, married Martha Foreman daughter of Alexander Foreman. He was a soldier of the American Revolution, and the records in the War department, at Washington, D. C., show that Charles Stewart was commissioned as Ensign in Captain William Grimes' Company of the 15th Virginia regiment of Foot, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel James Innes, Revolutionary War. His name first appears on the roll of that organization for July 1st, 1777, with remark, "Commissioned April 1777." He is reported on the roll for August, 1777, as "Looking after the sick in Philadelphia;" on the roll for September and October, 1777, without remark; on the roll for November, 1777, as "Turned over to Captain Gregory's Company." December, 1777, he is reported with rank as 2nd Lieutenant, and on rolls for January, February, March and April, 1778, his name is borne without remark. His name next appears on the roll for December, 1778, of the field and staff of the 11th Virginia Regiment, commanded by Colonel Buford, with remarks, "Appointed June 24th, 1777, Rank 2nd Lieutenant, 5th Company;" and on the muster rolls of Captain David Mason's Company of the 11th Virginia regiment in General Woodford's brigade, commanded by Colonel Buford, from December, 1778, to November, 1779, without additional information. The roll of November 1777, shows the designation of the organization to be "the 5th and 11th Virginia regiment of Foot, commanded by Colonel William Russell. The records of the Bureau of Pensions in Washington show that Charles Stewart was granted [illegible] acres of land on the 10th of April 1819 by the state of Virginia, for three years service as an Ensign in the Virginia Continental line, Virginia Military Warrant No. 6[illegible].

In minute book No. 12, page 49, of the Norfolk County Clerk's office, Va., appears the following order:

Charles Alexander Stewart.

1895.

as the case should be. His wife Sophia was his executrix. Margaret Braidfoot, his daughter, married John W. Collins and left issue.

* ANN SMITH. *

ANN SMITH, widow of Henry Smith, married Henry Garrett on the 29th of December 1814, and died on the 31st day of July 1829. They had three children, Henry Edward, who died at the age of 23 years, Catharine Matilda, who married William C. Stewart and Sarah Ann, who married Blackstone H. Williams.

* HENRY GARRETT. *

HENRY GARRETT was born in Accomac County, Va., in 1781. He located at an early age in Norfolk County, near Deep Creek; was for many years Superintendent of the Dismal Swamp Canal, and the Northwest Canal was dug under his management. His first wife was Ann Smith. His second wife was Rebecca Wallace sister of Lauretta Wallace who married Alexander Stewart, and their issue was Margaret Susan, who married Napoleon Cherry, Henrietta K. who married Dennis Vermillion, killed in war,) and afterwards Herbert L. Smith: Mary Frances, who married Richard H. Reed, and Joseph R. who died in 1882. Henry Garrett died on August 1st, 1855, age 74 years.

* CATHARINE MATILDA GARRETT. *

CATHARINE MATILDA GARRETT was born on the 27th of June 1818. She married William Charles Stewart on the 13th day of September 1837. He died on the 29th day of June 1865, leaving three sons and two daughters, as follows: William Henry Stewart, born on Tuesday the 25th day of September 1838; Charles Alexander Stewart, born on Monday, the 19th day of November 1860; Robert Edward Bruce Stewart, born on Monday, July 20th, 1863; Nannie Garrett Stewart, born on Monday the 1st day of December, 1840 and died on January 30th, 1897, and Sarah Catharine Stewart, born on the 5th day of June, 1843.

marriage, or to the age of 21 years. I do hereby revoke all of my former wills by me made, and appoint my loving wife Martha Moseley, Executrix, and Josiah Smith and Richard Taylor, Executors of this, my last Will and testament."

Blandinah Moseley married Rev. John Braidfoot, March 12th, 1773, — the marriage bond is signed:

"John Braidfoot with Richard Taylor, surety."

In 1774 he became rector of Trinity P. E. Church, Portsmouth Parish, Norfolk County. He was an ardent patriot and was made a Chaplain in the Revolutionary Army. He was a native of Scotland. He must have died before February 6th, 1779, as in Deed Book 27, page 72, Giles Randolph conveys certain land on New Mill Creek to William Braidfoot, orphan of John Braidfoot.

Bishop Meade, in his works, mistakes the father's name for the son's name. Rev. John Braidfoot died at the Glebe, now Port-Norfolk, at the mouth of the Western Branch of the Elizabeth river in Norfolk County, where he was buried. There is a tradition that he had a presentiment that he would die on a certain day, and his wife, hoping to divert his mind from the subject, gave a party on that day; notwithstanding, he died suddenly while the party was in progress. His widow Blandinah, and one child, William Braidfoot, survived him. William Braidfoot married Sophia Herbert on the 26th of March, 1800, and he died in February 1812. His mother Blandinah Braidfoot, married Captain Willis Wilkins of New Mill Creek, Norfolk Co., Va., whose only daughter Ann, married Henry Smith, who died in 1804.

William Braidfoot's will dated October 7th, 1811 and recorded February 19th, 1812, after directing sale of a tract of land near the Dismal Swamp Canal in said county, containing 428 acres more or less, and another tract near the same, containing 28 acres more or less, gives unto his half sister Ann Smith, late Ann Wilkins, one negro girl named "Joan," and the remainder of the real and personal estate to his wife Sophia during her natural life, and after her death, to descend to his daughter, Margaret; but if she should die without issue, then it should be equally divided between his sister Ann Smith and the children of the late Thomas Herbert, his wife's sisters, or their descendents

heirs, and at my wife's decease, I give my said negro Moll to my daughter Blandinah, and to her heirs forever.

"I give and bequeath to my son, Hancock Moseley, my negro boy Cezar. I give and bequeath unto my daughter, Blandinah Moseley, two gold rings, one gold locket and one Cusars chain, which was her mothers and are sealed up with my said daughter's name wrote on them; also six silver tea-spoons, marked 'A. M.'"

"My will and desire is that all my household goods, excepting those I have given to my wife Martha, may be sold for money and to be equally divided between my wife and my son Hancock and daughter Blandinah. It is likewise my will and desire that my negro man Jack may be hired and to the best advantage and the money be applied towards maintaining my wife and two children; and at my said wife's decease, my will is that my said negro Jack and all my other negroes, may be equally divided as can be done, between my son Hancock and daughter Blandinah.

I give and bequeath unto my loving wife Martha, my son Hancock, and my daughter Blandinah, all my debts, goods, wares, and whatsoever else I have not in this my will given away, to be equally divided between them share and share alike, and whatever shall appear to be the equal parts of my son Hancock and my daughter Blandinah, shall be put out to interest towards the support and maintenance of them, till they shall attain the age of 21 years or the day of marriage, and if either of my said children shall die, before he or she is of full age, or the day of marriage, my will is that the survivor shall have the deceased's full equal share paid to them and their heirs.

My will and desire is that my loving wife Martha Moseley, shall have the care and education of my daughter Blandinah; but in case my wife marry again, and there shall be any uneasiness to, or complaint of my daughter Blandinah, that, then, she shall be committed to the care and tuition of my loving friends Richard Taylor and his wife Elizabeth Taylor, and they, or the survivors of them, shall demand and receive the profits of the hire of my said negro Jack, and all other of my said daughter Blandinah's estate, to bring her up till the day of her

He remained on the bench as one of the Court until his death. His appointment dates on the 16th of March 1649, and his qualification on the 26th of March 1650, but as the ecclesiastical year ended and began between these dates, days only intervened, and not a year and days as might otherwise appear.

William Moseley is mentioned in a deed dated Feb. 1st 1650 in book 1651-56, page 24, clerk's office of Norfolk Co., Va., as late of Rotterdam in Holland.

He made his will on the 29th day of June 1655, which was recorded on the 15th day of August 1655; so he must have died between these dates. His wife and two sons survived.

ARTHUR MOSELEY.

ARTHUR MOSELEY, his son, died in 1703. His will was made Feb. 5th, 1700, and recorded May 13, 1703. His wife Anne, nine sons, Joseph, Benjamin, William, Arthur, Edward, George, Amos, Luke and Anthony, and two married daughters, Susan and Mary, survived him.

ARTHUR MOSELEY (2nd.)

ARTHUR MOSELEY (2nd), of the Borough of Norfolk, died in March 1757, as his will was made on the 28th day of March 1757, and was recorded at the April court of 1757. His wife Martha, son Hancock, and daughter Blandinah, survived. In Will Book No. 1, page 18 will be found his will which directs; first, the payment of all his debts; and second, he gives to his wife, Martha Moseley, the use of his "land and house I now live in, during her natural life and at her death unto my daughter Blandinah Moseley, and her heirs forever, and all my other land adjoining to my dwelling house, I give unto my daughter Blandinah, when she shall arrive at the age of 21 years, or on the day of her marriage and to her heirs forever. I give and bequeath unto my said wife, Martha, during her natural life, my negro woman Moll, also my best bed and furniture, and all my parlor and kitchen furniture to her and her

THE STEWARTS OF BEECHWOOD.

Maternal Ancestors.

WILLIAM MOSELEY and Susan, his wife, with their two sons, William and Arthur, came to Virginia from Rotterdam, Holland, in 1649, and settled in Lower Norfolk County, now Princess Anne. William Moseley, the father, was a merchant of Rotterdam, and lived six years after coming to this country. He was appointed soon after his arrival Court Commissioner, as shown by the following:

"At a quarter court held at James City on the 16th day of March 1649, present:

Hon. Sir William Berkley, Knight-Governor, Captain Samuel Mathews, Captain William Clayborne, Captain Henry Brown, Captain William Bernard, Captain Thomas Pettus, Captain Ralph Wormley and Captain Bridges Foreman.

It is ordered that the Commissioners of Lower Norfolk County shall have their request in their petition granted. Mr. William Moseley, Mr. Richard Conquest, and Mr. Lemuel Mason are adjoyned in Commission with the rest of the Commissioners of Lower Norfolk.

(Signed) Thomas Crosby, C. C."

"At Court held on the 26th of March 1650, Lower Norfolk:

"This day Mr. William Moseley hath taken the oath of supremacy and allegience according to the tenor of the aforementioned."